

ROUTING

Top Secret

(Security Classification)

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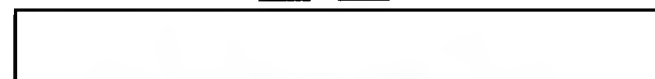


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NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE DAILY CABLE

Saturday May 22, 1976 CI NIDC 76-121C



NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION
Unauthorized Disclosure Subject to Criminal Sanctions

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DIA and DOS review(s) completed.

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National Intelligence Daily Cable for Saturday May 22, 1976.

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[REDACTED] The NID Cable is for the purpose of informing senior US officials.

LEBANON

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[REDACTED] Fighting in most areas of Lebanon continued to subside yesterday, although leftist leader Kamal Jumblatt has still not publicly approved a new truce agreement.

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[REDACTED] Jumblatt and his allies say they are studying a proposal for renewed negotiations presented to them on Wednesday by president-elect Ilyas Sarkis. Most Lebanese politicians believe Jumblatt favors a cease-fire, but suspect that he is bargaining for new conditions.

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[REDACTED] Jumblatt may be using recently won public support from other Arab capitals to strengthen his position. The leftists have been playing up pledges of support they received yesterday from the Algerian ambassador to Lebanon and from a special Iraqi delegation. These endorsements appear to have been prompted by Libyan Prime Minister Jallud's announcement early this week that Libya fully supports Jumblatt's "progressive front."

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[REDACTED] Algeria and Iraq do not want to appear to be lagging behind the Libyans in support of the Lebanese left or to miss any opportunity that Jallud may have opened up for greater outside influence in Lebanon. Some Lebanese are concerned that Libya is orchestrating an effort to draw the Syrians closer to its own militant position on broader Middle East issues in exchange for help from Libya, Algeria, and Iraq in solving the Lebanese crisis.

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[REDACTED] Despite Jumblatt's stalling, Sarkis and other Lebanese officials are moving ahead with plans for the "post cease-fire" period. All members of the Lebanese security forces have been ordered to return to their posts and warned that they will be punished if they disobey the order. The security forces melted away during the heavy fighting last year when they were carrying the major burden for patrolling disputed areas.

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25X1 [] An announcement yesterday by dissident General Ahdab that he was officially ending his so-called military uprising that began in March may also have been engineered by Sarkis. Ahdab never actually carried out a coup nor has he had any real following among Lebanese army officers, but his announcement should help alleviate the bitterness and chaos among Lebanon's armed forces. []

CUBA-AFRICA

25X1 [] Remarks by Cuban Deputy Prime Minister Carlos Rafael Rodriguez at a press conference in Tokyo on Thursday reflected the standard Cuban line on Africa and the US and did not indicate any change in policy.

25X1 [] //His pledge that Cuba would not send "troops" to Rhodesia is little more than a recognition that the situation there is different from that in Angola. []

25X1 [] Rodriguez made a distinction between Rhodesia and Angola by saying troops were sent to Angola to help the "legitimate government" there. Any Rhodesian rebel group that decided to declare itself the legitimate government of Rhodesia could presumably meet Rodriguez' criterion for intervention by Cuban troops--if Havana believed the time was right for it.

25X1 [] The key factors affecting a Cuban decision to intervene in Rhodesia will continue to be Moscow's attitude and the position of such countries as Zambia, Tanzania, and Mozambique. Havana is unlikely to act contrary to Soviet wishes, nor would the Cubans risk their good relations with African moderates. Open Cuban involvement in military operations is unlikely so long as African leaders believe the Smith government can be removed through indigenous guerrilla warfare.

25X1 [] Rodriguez' comments on the possibility of relations with the US were a reiteration of the long-held Cuban position that no progress can be made while the US persists in its economic denial campaign. His figures on Cubans serving abroad were inaccurate generalizations, and his characterization of them as exclusively civilian was patently false; the Cuban military presence in countries such as Somalia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, and Equatorial Guinea is well documented.

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[REDACTED] //Rodriguez was trying--as other top Cuban officials have been doing through diplomatic channels--to play down Cuba's military activities abroad. He did so in part to mollify Moscow, to reassure his Japanese hosts, and to counter criticism of the Cuban military role in Angola being voiced in Europe, Latin America, and in some countries in Africa.// [REDACTED]

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JAPAN

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[REDACTED] Tokyo is on the verge of ratifying the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty after more than five years of debate. Final approval is expected on Monday, the last day of the current Diet session, when the upper house is scheduled to vote on the treaty.

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[REDACTED] As with the approval of the treaty by the lower house late last month, upper house passage will largely be the result of the government's compromise with the Socialist and Clean Government parties over an accompanying resolution which reaffirms Japan's basic non-nuclear policies.

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[REDACTED] The opposition parties had been concerned that ratification would prompt Tokyo to tighten its military ties with the US and perhaps provide justification for the entry of US nuclear weapons into Japan.

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[REDACTED] For several years, right-wing opponents of the treaty within the ruling Liberal Democratic Party had blocked even consideration of it in the Diet, despite the party's general support for the pact. The ranks of the right wingers have gradually thinned, however, and in the face of the compromise between the government and the opposition parties, their numbers are no longer sufficient to prevent ratification. [REDACTED]

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ROMANIA

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[REDACTED] The recent call-ups of civilian reservists in Romania were part of an unannounced but planned mobilization and alert exercise.

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[REDACTED] US diplomats have also heard that a demobilization is either in progress or will soon take place, and other sources have predicted a "stand-down" by late May. The mobilization coincides with a scheduled field training exercise in the Dobrudja of two divisions of the Second Army that began on May 17.

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[REDACTED] The sudden call-ups, following closely a period of heightened anti-Soviet propaganda in Romania, reportedly alarmed the public. The US embassy reports, however, that

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panic buying in Bucharest has subsided considerably. In the absence of any coherent official explanation of the military moves, rumors continue to circulate that the alert is related to an unspecified Soviet provocation.

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[] We have no indications of any Soviet troop movements or exercises along the Romanian border that might have led to the alert. []

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[] The US defense attache in Sofia reports that a combined air and ground force exercise may soon take place in the Bulgarian Dobrudja. The Romanians may fear that Moscow will use this exercise as an excuse to request transit rights for a Soviet military convoy to cross the Dobrudja. Bucharest, for its part, has scheduled a tactical exercise involving a border defense brigade for May 24 to 26.

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[] Bucharest has consistently refused to grant Moscow blanket rights for such transits, but has allowed three crossings since March 1972. []

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JAMAICA

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[] Some 50 terrorists on Thursday fire-bombed a tenement in Kingston where supporters of the opposition Jamaican Labor Party lived.

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[] The incident is part of the politically motivated violence in the slums of the capital that has been marked by assassinations and shootouts between militants of the Labor and People's National parties. Several dozen deaths on both sides have been reported in the past month. In the attack on Thursday, 10 were killed and 500 made homeless.

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[] The killings on Thursday are certain to draw retaliation in kind unless Prime Minister Manley imposes more stringent measures on his party's gunmen and reins in the radical officials who control them. His recent efforts to establish joint military-police command posts in selected slum areas and to deputize nonpartisan civilian patrols to help the police maintain order have proven ineffective.

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[redacted] On Thursday, Manley imposed a dusk-to-dawn curfew and called up all army reserves. He will probably be forced to have troops occupy all slum neighborhoods affected by the violence, but he has thus far shown a reluctance to do this. [redacted]

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